IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel Claims 24-30, 32, 33, 35-41, 43, and 44 without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter presented therein.

Please amend Claims 1-23, 31, 34, and 42, as follows.

1.   (Currently Amended) A network device control apparatus comprising:

a receiving means for receiving unit adapted to receive data from a network by using a standard protocol;

a detecting means for detecting unit adapted to detect a special attribute value in said a packet header of the data received by said receiving unit, the packet header being provided for the standard protocol with respect to said data; and

a setting means for setting unit adapted to set various parameters a predetermined parameter of said network apparatus in accordance with said the attribute value in the case where a destination physical address of said data and its own physical address are the same detected by said detecting unit.

2.   (Currently Amended) An apparatus according to claim 1, wherein in the case where a destination logic address of said the received data and its own a logic address of said apparatus differ and said a destination physical address of the received data and the own a physical address of said apparatus are the same, said setting means unit sets the various parameters predetermined parameter in accordance with said the detected attribute value.

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3. (Currently Amended) An apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said setting ~~means~~ unit sets a destination logic address of ~~said~~ the received data to ~~its own~~ a logic address of said apparatus.

4. (Currently Amended) An apparatus according to claim ~~1~~ 2, wherein ~~said~~ the standard protocol is an Internet protocol, and

said ~~the~~ physical address is ~~an IP~~ a media access control address, and the logic address is an Internet protocol address.

5. (Currently Amended) An apparatus according to claim 1, wherein ~~said physical address is an MAC address~~ said setting unit sets the predetermined parameter in accordance with the detected attribute value if a destination physical address of the received data and a physical address of said apparatus are the same.

6. (Currently Amended) An apparatus according to claim 4, wherein ~~said~~ the received data is an ICMP echo message by an ICMP protocol.

7. (Currently Amended) An apparatus according to claim 1, wherein ~~said~~ the attribute value is a data length of ~~said~~ the received data.

8. (Currently Amended) An apparatus according to claim 1, wherein ~~said~~ the attribute value is a TTL value of ~~said~~ the received data.

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9.   (Currently Amended) A network ~~device control~~ apparatus comprising:

a receiving ~~means~~ unit adapted for receiving an ICMP echo message;

a data length detecting ~~means~~ unit adapted for detecting a value of a data length in a packet header of ~~said~~ the ICMP echo message received by said receiving unit; and

a setting ~~means~~ unit adapted for setting ~~various setting parameters~~ a predetermined parameter in accordance with ~~a~~ the value of ~~said~~ the data length ~~in the case where~~ detected by said data length detecting unit if a destination MAC address and ~~its own~~ a MAC address of said apparatus are the same.

10.   (Currently Amended) An apparatus according to claim 9, wherein ~~in the case where~~ if a destination IP address of ~~said~~ the received ICMP echo message and ~~its own~~ an IP address of said apparatus differ and ~~said~~ the destination MAC address and ~~said own~~ the MAC address of said apparatus are the same, said setting ~~means~~ unit sets the ~~various setting parameters~~ predetermined parameter in accordance with the detected value of ~~said~~ the data length.

11.   (Currently Amended) An apparatus according to claim 9, wherein said setting ~~means~~ unit sets a destination IP address of ~~said~~ the received ICMP echo message to ~~its own~~ an IP address of said apparatus.

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12. (Currently Amended) A <u>method of controlling a</u> network device <s>control method</s> comprising:

a receiving step, of receiving data from a network by using a standard protocol;

a detecting step, of detecting a special attribute value in <s>said</s> <u>a packet header of the received data, the packet header being provided for the</u> standard protocol <s>with respect to said data</s>; and

a setting step of setting <s>various parameters</s> <u>a predetermined parameter of the network device</u> in accordance with <s>said</s> <u>the</u> detected attribute value <s>in the case where a destination physical address of said data and its own physical address are the same</s>.

13. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 12, wherein in said setting step, <s>in the case where</s> <u>if</u> a destination logic address of <s>said</s> <u>the received</u> data and <s>its own</s> <u>a</u> logic address <u>of said apparatus</u> differ and <s>said</s> <u>a</u> destination physical address <u>of the received data</u> and <s>the own</s> <u>a</u> physical address <u>of said apparatus</u> are the same, the <s>various parameters are</s> <u>predetermined parameter is</u> set in accordance with <s>said</s> <u>the detected</u> attribute value.

14. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 12, wherein in said setting step, a destination logic address of <s>said</s> <u>the received</u> data is set to <s>its own</s> <u>a</u> logic address <u>of said apparatus</u>.

15. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim ~~12~~ 13, wherein ~~said~~ standard protocol is an Internet protocol, and

said the physical address is ~~an IP~~ a media access control address, and the logic address is an Internet protocol address.

16. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 12, wherein ~~said physical address is an MAC address~~ said setting step includes setting the predetermined parameter in accordance with the detected attribute value if a destination physical address of the received data and a physical address of said apparatus are the same.

17. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 15, wherein ~~said~~ the received data is an ICMP echo message by an ICMP protocol.

18. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 12, wherein ~~said~~ the attribute value is a data length of ~~said~~ the received data.

19. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 12, wherein ~~said~~ the attribute value is a TTL value of ~~said~~ the received data.

20. (Currently Amended) A method of controlling a network device ~~control method~~ comprising:

a receiving step, of receiving an ICMP echo message;

a data length detecting step, of detecting <u>a value of</u> a data length <u>in a packet header</u> of ~~said~~ <u>the received</u> ICMP echo message; and

a setting step, of setting ~~various setting parameters~~ <u>a predetermined value</u> in accordance with ~~a~~ <u>the detected</u> value of ~~said~~ <u>the</u> data length ~~in the case where~~ <u>if</u> a destination MAC address and ~~its own~~ <u>a</u> MAC address <u>of the network device</u> are the same.

21.   (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 20, wherein in said setting step, ~~in the case where~~ <u>if</u> a destination IP address of ~~said~~ <u>the received</u> ICMP echo message and ~~its own~~ <u>an</u> IP address <u>of said apparatus</u> differ and ~~said~~ <u>the</u> destination MAC address and ~~said own~~ <u>the</u> MAC address <u>of said apparatus</u> are the same, the ~~various setting parameters are~~ <u>predetermined value is</u> set in accordance with the <u>detected</u> value of ~~said~~ <u>the</u> data length.

22.   (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 20, wherein in said setting step, a destination IP address of ~~said~~ <u>the received</u> ICMP echo message is set to ~~its own~~ <u>an</u> IP address <u>of said apparatus.</u>

23.   (Currently Amended) A computer-readable recording medium which stores a network device control program, wherein said network device control program comprises:

<u>code for</u> a receiving step, of receiving data from a network by using a standard protocol;

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code for a detecting step, of detecting a special attribute value in ~~said~~ a packet header of the received data, the packet header being provided for the standard protocol ~~with respect to said data~~; and

code for a setting step, of setting ~~various parameters~~ a predetermined parameter of the network device in accordance with ~~said~~ the detected attribute value ~~in the case where a destination physical address of said data and its own physical address are the same~~.

Claims 24-30 (Currently Canceled)

31.   (Currently Amended) A computer-readable recording medium which stores a network device control program, wherein said network device control program comprises:

code for a receiving step, of receiving an ICMP echo message;

code for a data length detecting step, of detecting a value of a data length in a packet header of ~~said~~ the received ICMP echo message; and

code for a setting step, of setting ~~various setting parameters~~ a predetermined value in accordance with ~~a~~ the detected value of ~~said~~ the data length ~~in the case where~~ if a destination MAC address and ~~its own~~ a MAC address of the network device are the same.

Claims 32 and 33 (Currently Canceled)

34. (Currently Amended) A network device control program comprising:

code for a receiving step, of receiving data from a network by using a standard protocol;

code for a detecting step, of detecting a special attribute value in ~~said~~ a packet header of the received data, the packet header being provided for the standard protocol ~~with respect to said data~~; and

code for a setting step, of setting ~~various parameters~~ a predetermined parameter of the network device in accordance with ~~said~~ the detected attribute value ~~in the case where a destination physical address of said data and its own physical address are the same~~.

Claims 35-41 (Currently Canceled)

42. (Currently Amended) A network device control program comprising:

code for a receiving step, of receiving an ICMP echo message;

code for a data length detecting step, of detecting a value of a data length in a packet header of ~~said~~ the received ICMP echo message; and

code for a setting step, of setting ~~various setting parameters~~ a predetermined value in accordance with ~~a~~ the detected value of ~~said~~ the data length ~~in the case where~~ if a destination MAC address and ~~its own~~ a MAC address of the network device are the same.

Claims 43 and 44 (Currently Canceled)